



# Town of Abington

## OFFICE OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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### Minutes

#### Board of Selectmen

February 14, 2022

Cotter Room

6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Kevin DiMarzio, Chair, Tim Chapin, Alex Bezanson, Mike Kolodziej, Alex Hagerty, Scott Lambiase, Town Manager

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Motion by Mr. Chapin to enter into executive session in accordance with MGL c30A Sec. 21 to discuss complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individuals, and to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and return to open session, seconded by Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote: Mr. Hagerty, aye; Mr. Kolodziej, aye; Mr. Bezanson, aye; Mr. Chapin, aye; Mr. DiMarzio, aye.

Meeting resumed.

**Moment of Silence:** Howard Cullinan (attached). Mr. DiMarzio also mentioned the recent tragic loss of life in the house fire on Linwood Street. He wanted to recognize the first responders for the difficult job they do every day and for the selfless dedication to the town. We see it and appreciate them.

#### Public Announcements:

- Mr. Hagerty – thanked the Health Department and Board members for distributing COVID test kits at the Senior Center and Town Hall on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Also recognized Plymouth County Commissioners and Treasurer for making the test kits available to the town. Abington received 11,000 test kits and noted Scott Lambiase, Alex Bezanson and Alyson Sullivan picked up and delivered the test kits to Abington. He also recognized the hard work of Health Director Marty Golightly who recently resigned and expressed his thanks. He does not tolerate bullying, harassment and threatening of town officials. Be kind to one another. Wished everyone a happy Valentine's Day and Frederick Douglas Day.
  - Mr. DiMarzio – Greenway Community Connections – re local environmental issues and open space protection. Please contact Dan Brielmann if anyone is interested at [eawakening@gmail.com](mailto:eawakening@gmail.com).
2. Motion by Mr. Bezanson to approve January 24, 2022, minutes, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous.

3. Discussion and possible vote to fill vacancies on the Board of Health. Aaron Christian, Chair – received two resignations. There will be two positions up for 3-year terms, one position for 2-year unexpired term and one position for 1-year unexpired term on the ballot. The two positions that are vacant could be appointed jointly until the election or left open by vote of the Selectmen until the election. There are still three members on the board, so there is still a quorum. Motion by Mr. Chapin to let it be decided by ballot at the election, seconded by Mr. Bezanson, unanimous.
4. Request for appointment to Strawberry Valley Golf Course Committee. Frank Lane had previously been on the Committee and sent in his application. The position was posted on the website. Motion by Mr. Hagerty to appoint Mr. Lane to the Strawberry Valley Golf Course Committee to fill the unexpired term, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous.
5. Vote on request to use Center School and North School parking lots for Saint Patrick's Day Parade. The lots have been used previously. Mr. Lambiase will check with John Stone. Motion by Mr. Chapin to approve pending approval of Police and Fire Chiefs, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, unanimous.
6. Chief Del Papa Police Department Budget review and operational update. Mr. Bezanson thanked the Chief for taking care of a parking problem on his street. The Chief gave an update. Has lost two officers since he started, but has hired seven new officers that will be starting the Academy in May and will be out by this time next year. Two will be graduating soon. Purchasing new firearms; current ones are over 20 years old. With turnover of current weapons, there will be no cost to the department. Overtime – has 12% of his budget left. He has re-organized personnel and has come close to eliminating forced overtime and reduced overtime. Is working on the website. They are reviewing policies. Changing graphics on the cruisers. Department has a K-9 for tracking and narcotics detection. Thanked officers for their hard work. Submitted budget to Finance Committee and thanked Scott, Sonia and Meaghan, his Administrative Assistant. Budget has a \$383,000 increase due to six new positions.
7. Discussion and possible vote to place the following parcels of land into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission.
  - 0 Chestnut St. parcel 49-13
  - 0 Oakland Rd. parcels 63-132, 63-133, 63-134, 63-128
  - 0 Rockland St. parcel 22-43
  - 251 Rockland St. parcel 22-42A
  - 0 Rockland St. parcel 22-42BSome of these parcels had been pulled from the auction. Open Space Committee and Conservation will be voting on this tomorrow night, which would preserve the land as open space. Motion by Mr. Chapin to support asking Conservation to take the land into their care and custody, seconded by Mr. Bezanson, unanimous.
8. Motion to close the FY2023 Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants made by Mr. Hagerty, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous.
9. FY2023 Budget Update:
  - Working with the Collins Center on long-term capital plan.
  - Water and sewer coming out of retained earnings, as well as golf.
  - There are articles from the Planning Board on marijuana on cultivation in extending district on Chestnut Street.

A draft budget was handed out \$300,000 to the good, but still a work in progress. Police Department is looking to increase staff levels; DPW is looking for one more laborer; Library is looking for a children's librarian; VSO is requesting some administrative help; there are some union negotiations.

Capital – will have Andrew and Sonia come in. Looking at a \$1.3M free cash figure. There will be ARPA money available over the next four years for capital. There will be money available from the sale of property.

Snow and ice budget has not been raised.

Trash is steadily increasing. We need long-term solutions. Some communities have separate user fees. We need to look at other options.

Mr. Hagerty - questions on the role of the Board in terms of the FY2023 budget. Discussion followed.

10. Town Manager Report:

Marty Golightly, Health Director, recently resigned and will be missed. Chris Schultz will be the Acting Health Director, and Lindsay Wright is our Public Health Nurse.

The South Shore Food Truck Association won't be able to come back next year. They suggested a monthly movie night on Reilly Field.

Will have some recommendations on ARPA money on projects soon.

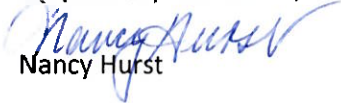
Library roof went out to bid; due March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Meeting with health insurance providers – Mayflower and MIIA. Looking into liability insurance also.

Mr. Hagerty asked about the status of North and Center Schools. We have a grant for a consultant looking into senior housing at Center School. There will be community outreach to the neighborhood and developers. As far as Center School, the field would remain. Engineer will look at building. Nothing has been considered at North School at this point. Recreational use was brought up.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Chapin, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Nancy Hurst

# Howard F. Cullinan Jr.

Provided by Quealy and Son Funeral Home and  
Cremation Services

January 11, 1945 ~ January 22, 2022 (age 77)



Howard F. Cullinan Jr. 77, of Abington passed away Saturday January 22, 2022 at South Shore Hospital due to complications from COVID -19.

Born on January 11, 1945 in Brockton, he was the son of Howard and Velma Cullinan. He was the brother of the late Patricia Roberts of Whitman.

Howie was a lifelong member of the Abington Community. He was known by many as the best custodian of several Abington Public Schools. He loved all of his hometown sporting events especially football. He enjoyed playing bingo, cards fishing and his one-on-one time with Bob when they drove to casinos. He loved spending time and telling his jokes with family and friends.

He is survived by his three daughters, Lynn Doane and her husband Thomas Doane of Taunton, Stacey Celia and her husband Bob Celia of Brockton and Cheryl Cullinan and Tim Connors of Abington. He was a wonderful uncle to many nieces and nephews. He was the proud grandfather of ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

There will be visitation on Thursday January 27 from 3:00 – 7:00 PM followed by a funeral home service at 7PM. Interment will be private at Mount Vernon Cemetery, Abington

